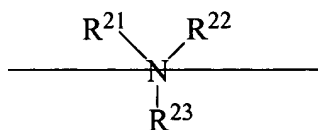


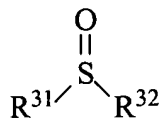
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A photothermographic material comprising, on one side of a support, a photosensitive silver halide, a non-photosensitive silver salt of an organic acid, a reducing agent for silver ions and a binder, which is characterized by containing at least one or more ~~o polyphenol compounds;~~ phenol compound as the reducing agent and one or more compounds wherein all of said one or more compounds satisfy

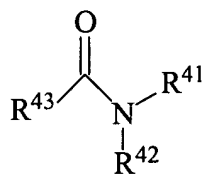
at least one compound having the following requirements A and B ~~A: the compound has a hydrogen bond formation rate constant  $K_f$  that is 20-4000, B: the compound and which~~ is represented by the following formula (II), (III), (IV) or (V) ~~or the compound has a phosphoryl group (III) or (IV):~~



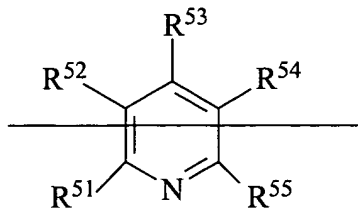
(II)



(III)



(IV)



(V)

wherein:

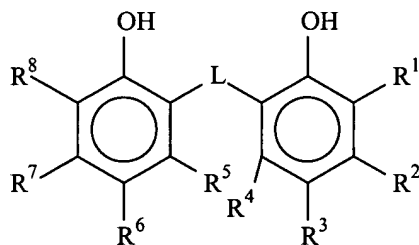
~~in the formula (II),  $R^{21}$  and  $R^{22}$  independently represent an alkyl group, and  $R^{23}$  represents an alkyl group, an aryl group or a heterocyclic group, and two or more of  $R^{21}$ ,  $R^{22}$  and  $R^{23}$  may be taken together to form a ring,~~

in the formula (III),  $R^{31}$  and  $R^{32}$  independently represent an alkyl group, an aryl group, an aryl group or a heterocyclic group, and  $R^{31}$  and  $R^{32}$  may be taken together to form a ring;

and in the formula (IV),  $R^{41}$  and  $R^{42}$  independently represent an alkyl group, an aryl group or a heterocyclic group,  $R^{43}$  represents an alkyl group, an aryl group, a heterocyclic group or  $N-(R^{44})(R^{45})$  where  $R^{44}$  and  $R^{45}$  independently represent an alkyl group, an aryl group or a heterocyclic group, and two or more of  $R^{41}$ ,  $R^{42}$ ,  $R^{43}$ ,  $R^{44}$  and  $R^{45}$  may be taken together to form a ~~ring,~~ ring.

~~and in the formula (V),  $R^{51}$ ,  $R^{52}$ ,  $R^{53}$ ,  $R^{54}$  and  $R^{55}$  independently represent a hydrogen atom or a substituent and two or more of  $R^{51}$ ,  $R^{52}$ ,  $R^{53}$ ,  $R^{54}$  and  $R^{55}$  may be taken together to form a ring.~~

2. (Currently Amended) The photothermographic material according to claim 1, wherein the phenol compound is at least one ~~of the o-polyphenol compounds is~~ compound represented by the following formula I



(I)

wherein R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>5</sup>, and R<sup>7</sup> are hydrogen atoms, R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> represent an alkyl group and R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> represent an alkyl group, and L represents a group -CHR<sup>9</sup>- where R<sup>9</sup> represents a hydrogen atom, a methyl group, an ethyl group, an isopropyl group, an n-propyl group, a heptyl group, a 1-ethylpentyl group, and an undecyl group.

3. (Original) The photothermographic material according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the hydrogen bond formation rate constant  $K_f$  is 70 to 4000.

4. (Currently Amended) The photothermographic material according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the hydrogen ~~bond~~ bond formation rate constant  $K_f$  is 100-4000.

5. (Currently Amended) The photothermographic material according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the hydrogen ~~bond~~ bond formation rate constant  $K_f$  is 250-2000.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Original) The photothermographic material according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the compound of the requirement B is represented by the formula (III).

8. (Original) The photothermographic material according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the compound of the requirement B is represented by the formula (IV).

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) The photothermographic material according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the amount of the ~~e-polyphenol~~ phenol compound is 0.01-40 g/m<sup>2</sup>.

11. (Currently Amended) The photothermographic material according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the amount of ~~all of~~ said at least one or more compound ~~satisfy the requirement A and B~~ is 0.01-40g/m<sup>2</sup>.